ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Language of Reporters in Nigerian Print Newspapers

EMMANUEL OLUKUNLE OLUMUJI, Ph.D & OLUPE O. OLUFEMI, Ph.D.

Mass Communication Department, Chrisland University, Abeokuta, Nigeria. Email: builderemma1@gmail.com; Department of General Studies, Moshood Abiola Polytechnic, Abeokuta, Nigeria. Email: femiolupe@gmail.com

Abstract

As exchanges with humans take place, language becomes an essential instrument for expressing ideas, feelings, attitudes, and dispositions. As language is such an important component of human life, journalists, researchers, and academics must focus on it. Nigeria's official language of communication is English. The study examined the biases in language of communication in Nigerian newspapers and identified ways to improve the efficient use of language among Nigerian reporters. The language of reporters in Nigerian print newspapers was analyzed in this exploratory study, and the results revealed that Nigerian newspapers continue to convey a high degree of gender-bias expressions in their reporting. The study concluded that media schools' academic curricula should be geared toward proper media language usage. The study recommended that there should be public awareness efforts to educate all Nigerians on the importance of gender equality in English language and the inclusion of gender-neutral vocabulary. Newspapers should carefully select linguistic items in order to achieve their intentions and goals. Reporters and editors should use simple and precise language to improve the clarity of their work.

Key words: English, Language, Print Newspapers, Media, Reporters

Introduction

Language allows communication in humans. People can engage in transactions and exchange their ideas, thoughts, and experiences. It allows the sender to effectively communicate his message and the receiver to understand such communication and give feedback. It is an essential tool for communicating sentiments, attitudes, and dispositions. Linguists and communication specialists must consequently defend the phatic role of language in any publication, particularly in newspapers (Animasahun, 2015).

News and paper make up a newspaper; meaning, a paper published periodically that bears tidings or timely reports (Baran, 2002). Newspapers are periodicals with informative, educative, entertaining and cultural promoting messages that are usually daily publications (Goodluck, William & Adebisi, 2016). Newspapers are typically thought of simply as a collection of folded printed sheets of paper, but as the number of newspapers accessible on newsstands grows, so does competition, forcing newspapers to broaden their content and the range of viewpoints represented in their pages. It is a folded, unstapled periodical that is published at frequent, close intervals, usually daily or weekly, and often contains current news, opinion, feature articles, advertising, and correspondence (Edegoh, Ezeh & Samson, 2015). Rev. Hope Waddell of the Presbyterian Church of Scotland Mission constructed the first printing press in Nigeria in Calabar in 1846, and Rev. Henry Townsend established a press in 1854 that printed Nigeria's first newspaper.

The language most reporters in Nigeria use in reporting and publishing media contents especially the Newspaper is English. The language of reporters in Nigerian print newspapers is examined in this study. Language is such an important component of human life. Journalists, researchers, and academics must devote their attention to it. The objectives of the study are to examine the biases in language of communication in Nigerian newspapers and identify ways to improve the efficient use of language among Nigerian reporters.

Language and Newspaper

Language has always been an important aspect of human conduct; it is the fundamental mode of communication between individuals. As a result, language is used by speakers and writers all over the world to communicate their thoughts, feelings, intentions, and wishes to others. Among several other interpretations to the creation of human

language, a school of thought have it that the origin of language can be traced back to God, who created and gave inspiration to Adam, the first man, to name all creatures, including animals, and communicate with them. Reference is made to the holy books where God became irritated by the building of the tower of Babel and that resulted in the emergence of several languages (Odegbenle, 2013).

In human society, language allows people to communicate their ideas and interact with others. The goal of language, whether spoken or written, is to produce meaning and perfect communication. Language has a significant impact on how individuals think and see the world. Language literacy has become an important component of literacy promotion in Nigeria (Olarewaju & Babalola, 2016). Literacy is not limited to reading and writing in a certain language; it encompasses the ability to utilize that language accurately, efficiently, and effectively.

To comprehend a language, one must first comprehend how it is utilized to convey meaning because language is more than words said or written in a book, but encompasses how the words are employed in specific social circumstances. The appropriate use of language will aid practitioners in effectively communicating their message. News reporters are 'wordsmiths'. Just like a blacksmith, they start with ideas and shape them into a form that appeals to the target audience (Alo & Ogungbe, 2012). To put it another way, these concepts are phrased to appeal to the readers.

There seems not to be an agreement to the official number of newspapers in circulation in Nigeria due to what appears to be uncontrolled entry. Though newspapers with national coverage are known, one may not be justified in asserting that there are either too many, enough, or too enough newspapers and magazines (Udoh & Obot, 2013; Olumuji, 2021). This is due to the fact that the number that should be sufficient for Nigeria's population is unknown. To supplement the news and commentary provided by their print media, media companies have gotten actively involved in the provision of on-line services to users. To guarantee that they are not left behind by the Internet's expanding popularity, most newspapers, for example, have established websites. This is a significant step toward attracting and retaining more readers. Newspapers are now published in print only or print and electronic editions.

Nigeria is thought to be a media-rich country, with a diverse range of media outlets and material catering to the tastes and interests of its citizens, ranging from traditional national newspapers to cutting-edge internet-based publications (Ojo, Odegbenle & Akinreti, 2013; Olumuji & Ogba, 2018). Newspaper is available to different categories of people within a community, both literate and semi-literate, students and working class, youths and elderly, white- and blue-collar jobs. These categories of readers can find beneficial information for their use. The newspaper industry in Nigeria is key to socializing the people (Olumuji & Obateru, 2022).

Newspapers have a huge and long-lasting impact. They can be read and re-read by a group of people; they can be read with peer-group, relatives and colleagues; and printed newspapers can be reproduced and saved for future use. Newspapers set the tone for national debate by reporting on the remarks and acts of public officials, celebrities, and events taking place around the country and exposing them to their readership.

In many developing countries, such as Nigeria, newspapers reach highly educated, aristocratic populations. Even if a newspaper may not appear to be the quickest means to reach a large audience compared to radio or television, it does have the advantage of being an authoritative source of information. Other types of mass media frequently use what is read in the newspaper as a source of content. Newspapers include crucial and fascinating information for many types of readers.

An important aspect of the newspaper is the headline, because it serves as a forerunner to the news report. According to Taiwo (2007), "a headline reveals the social, cultural, and national representations of a society at any given time. Headlines reach a wider audience than those who read the news stories. When vendors display their newspapers on the stand, passersby and casual

readers are able to get a glimpse of the headlines, which, in most cases, become the subject of discussion on public transport, offices, or any other domain''. Editors typically use over-lexicalization in capturing the headline, to attract readers and buyers and to communicate the publishing house's house style (and, on rare occasions, personal convictions). In other cases, there is unsubstantiated derogatory naming, which has been identified as a challenge in the practice of journalism in Nigeria and is damaging to the person referred to because it portrays the editor and in some cases the reporter's bias (Alo & Ogungbe, 2012).

Language of Communication in Nigerian Newspaper

Nigeria's official language of communication is English. It became the official language after colonialists found it acceptable for running the country. English is used as the medium of communication in about 80% of Nigerian newspapers (Olarewaju & Babalola, 2016). Nigeria has over four hundred indigenous languages, of which the major languages are Hausa, Igbo and Yoruba (Odegbenle, 2013). It is worth noting that the first indigenous language of mass communication in Nigeria was Yoruba, as the first newspaper, *Iwe Irohin fun Awon Egba*, was established in 1859. Other indigenous language periodicals exist, such as the *Gaskiya Tafi Kobo* in Hausa published by the *New Nigerian newspapers, Al-Bashir* and *Al-Turari*, which are now defunct, *Ogene*, which is distributed in Eastern Nigeria, and so on. (Odurume, 2012; Odegbenle, 2013; Olarewaju & Babalola, 2016).

Given the importance of English in almost every part of life in Nigeria, it is critical for everyone to be proficient in it and seek to follow the global trend of language usage in the twenty-first century. It is the language of official contexts, such as schools, higher-level commerce, law, and the vast majority of media articles. (Olarewaju & Babalola, 2016). Despite the peculiarity of the Nigerian media's use of English, certain Nigerian newspapers continue to utilize the language incorrectly, owing to the straight translation of local dialect into English (Ojo, Odegbenle & Akinreti, 2013). The audience's attitude, viewpoint, and way of thinking about specific persons, policies, events, and situations can occasionally be affected, shaped, and controlled by the reporter's language, style, and visual pictures. The most important aspect is style, which is more than just decoration for writing; it is the result of the many choices the writer makes during the writing process (Pam, 2012; Alo & Ogungbe, 2012).

Nigerians are devout, and people care deeply about their religious views, but how often writers and reporters take this into account in their reporting is a huge topic. According to Olarewaju and Babalola (2016), Isioma Daniel, a reporter for *This Day Newspaper*, angered Nigerian Muslims and non-Muslims alike with a report on a beauty contest conducted in Abuja. He asserted that Prophet Muhammad, if he were still alive, would be enthralled by the contenders' beauty. As a result of the report, Muslims staged a series of rallies, as well as attacks on *This Day* offices.

In Nigerian media discourse, reporters use a wide range of language types to carry out their duties. In Nigerian newspaper news reports, Alo and Ogungbe (2012) investigate how linguistic choices are made to simultaneously convey knowledge and judgment about people and policies. Four Nigerian national daily newspapers' news stories on politics, business, security, sports, health, and religion were analyzed using critical discourse analysis (*The Nation, The Guardian, Nigerian Tribune,* and *Daily Trust*). The findings show that the linguistic patterns used by Nigerian newspaper reporters establish diverse judgmental stances that influence readers' attitudes and actions. The findings also show that Nigerian newspapers frequently portray people, events, and policies through sensational, biased, and inflammatory lexical items, revealing the reporters' desperation to propagandize, sensationalise, or impose certain meanings of complexity in news discourse in Nigerian newspapers. The following are such examples presented by Alo and Ogungbe (2012):

Daily Trust, Wednesday July 4, 2007, page 4 reads ''Each policeman to own a house in four years''. Sample 2: *Nigerian Tribune*,

> Monday June 11, 2007, front page reads "Armed Men Kill Yar'Adua's Man". The choice of 'policeman' in the headline of Sample 1 implies that there are no women in the Nigeria Police Force and it also presupposes that policewomen will not benefit from the housing project and better conditions of service reported in Sample 1 as the nominal expression excludes them from the benefits. Alternative such as 'police officers' for 'policemen' is more appropriate. The choice of the nominal expression, 'armed men' in Sample 2 suggests a kind of bias against men. In other words, women are under represented in the crime reported. The nominal expression seems to exonerate women in the crimes of taking arms and killing. Alternatives like 'gunners', 'armed bandits', 'murderers', or 'assassins', 'kidnappers', and 'abductors', should be preferred.

Alo and Ogungbe (2012, p7) state that "with the advent of Critical Linguistics and Critical Discourse Analysis, there has been vigorous resistance to the use of gender-biased nominal expressions such as 'man', for human beings; 'mankind', for humanity; 'foreman', for representative, and so on". Human rights advocates, sociologists, and critical discourse experts have all criticized the argument. Amazingly, such gender-biased statements are still prevalent in Nigerian publications despite campaigns against discrimination against women. (Animasahun, 2015; Olarewaju & Babalola, 2016). As a result, Nigerian journalists and news(paper) editors should aim to employ representational resources in a fair, balanced, and restrained manner.

Ojo, Odegbenle, and Akinreti (2013) affirm that the style of writing is the most distinguishing feature of English in Nigerian publications, as the language is suited to a specific readership. The correct use of sentences is a key to reaching the intended audience. Pam (2012) states that the sentence is the vehicle through which the writer conveys the importance of his message. The way a writer employs sentences determines how effective he or she is at communicating.

Words are important in language, and they have an impact on what media professionals write or say. The effectiveness of the message being conveyed is greatly influenced by the writer's language. For effective communication, the register must be properly utilized. The writer can choose between using plain, concrete words and expressions and using complex, esoteric words and expressions. The aesthetic enjoyment of a piece of writing is determined by the writer's choice of words. Pam (2012) adds that a writer's tone toward a subject might be deduced from his choice of words. The writer's language, which could be caustic, sardonic, pessimistic, or hopeful, conveys his attitude and true feelings to his audience. Another aspect of language highlighted is figurative expression. Figures of speech add artistically to the quality of the writing in a newspaper, as long as the issue discussed is a sensitive one.

In Nigeria, there are elite newspapers with high-sounding titles and big vocabulary. This category includes the *Guardian, Vanguard*, and *This Day* newspapers. Some publications, on the other hand, utilize basic, everyday English that is grammatically acceptable and easily understood by the general audience without the assistance of a dictionary to comprehend its meanings. The *Punch* and the *Nigerian Tribune* are good examples of these newspapers, and both the elites and the general people read them (Ojo, Odegbenle, & Akinreti, 2013). The majority of these newspapers focus on the privileged few who live in urban areas.

Language, in any form, is a means to an end, not an end in itself (Pam, 2012). It is a tool that can be utilized to achieve a number of expressive objectives. Taiwo (2007) did a discourse analysis of Nigerian newspaper headlines, selecting 300 headlines at random from six Nigerian newspapers and examining them for unusual terminology and rhetorical devices with the beliefs that support their constructions. A detailed inspection of the headlines revealed that they have sublimated ideological undertones that represent the perspectives of those whose interests are promoted and those whose interests are being undermined.

The study comes to the conclusion that editors utilize headlines as an emotional approach to start and maintain a conversation and sway readers' opinions on important national topics.

In the same vein, Pam (2012) studied how language is used as a tool in Nigerian newspaper to achieve the communicative goal of the user. The study looked at how editors use English to successfully explain sensitive themes in editorials. The study looked at the editorials' linguistic and communicative value in affecting readers' perspectives toward the situation in Jos and its environs. The study's goals were to determine the linguistic aspects of grammar, lexis, and semantics that have been employed in editorials to characterize the Jos crises in 2010 and 2011. According to the findings, a competent writer uses linguistic and stylistic methods to communicate effectively and improve the literacy abilities of the general public. It was observed that editorial writers twisted language to meet their goals on a regular basis.

The studies by Taiwo (2007) and Pam (2012) both look at how language is used in newspapers, with consideration to editorial and headline elements of a newspaper. Both elements play the role as precursors to the news because they are constructed in such a way that they usually evoke readers' emotions. The news reporter's choice of words says and means a lot. That is why most editors ensure that the choice of expressions reflects the feelings, opinions and attitudes of people about issues in the news (Awojobi & Adeokun, 2012).

Despite the editors' efforts to improve English communicative competency in Nigeria, Nigerian gender activists and linguists criticize some media practitioners for continuing to disregard or marginalize the viewpoints and experiences of women who make up a substantial part of the population. In this context, Olarewaju and Babalola (2016) specifically with regard to Nigerian female journalists, who do not seem to see anything wrong with being referred to or addressed as newsmen, pressmen, gentlemen of the press, and cameramen when there are better corresponding words in the language to use, evaluated Nigerian journalists' compliance with the global trend of using the 21st century English language in writing their news. Data were gathered from *Punch, The Herald, The Nigerian Observer* and *The Guardian*, four popular English-language daily newspapers published in Nigeria. The study found that editorials, news, and features frequently handled by seasoned editors, senior writers/reporters, and columnists in Nigerian media still frequently utilize gender-biased language. The study emphasizes that gender is not just about women, but also about relationships between men and women, and that promoting gender equality and raising gender awareness are essential and fundamental aspects of society. The study suggests that the Nigerian newspaper should use gender-neutral language and be gender sensitive as a tool for communication, information, and English literacy in the nation.

In another gender related study, informed by the Whorfian idea that language has a significant impact on worldview and attitudes, Animasahun (2015) conducted research using Claude Shannon's Communication Theory. In order to identify recurring sexist language patterns and suggest alternatives. The study looked at how news editors, reporters, journalists, columnists, and political analysts use language in two well-known Nigerian newspapers, *The Guardian* and *The Punch*. Since there are no linguistic equivalents for the terms "gunmen" or "men of the underworld," it was determined that sexism in language discriminates against both men and women. The 206 articles that were examined included editorials, opinion pieces, news stories, interviews, and political columns. The analysis uncovers situations in which popular, offensive phrases and expressions were also used to address the male gender. The most prevalent sexist expressions in Nigerian publications employ generic masculine words. The generic term "chairman" is the one that is used the most, followed by "policeman." For instance, referring to a murderer as a "gunman" may have a major impact on police efforts to find men, even if evidence suggests that women are just as likely to commit crimes as men. Due to the use of evident male terminology as generics, women are also at a disadvantage in language. For example, the title

"Mr" before "President" may preclude that the office is meant for only men.

Udoh and Obot (2013) examine the aesthetic components of print media news and feature stories, in line with reporters' use of language in newspapers, and emphasize the need for practicing and aspiring journalists, particularly in Nigeria, to help protect the profession by always considering the appealing worth of their stories. This is due to the increasing importance of the textual component of a typical newspaper and the continual degeneration of most Nigerian newspapers' textual content. The study claims that, just as in electronic media, there are certain seemingly overlooked interrelated elements in the written word that are by their very nature considered aesthetic fields (news and features). The study suggests that a newspaper or magazine news or feature story should take cognizance of the interrelated aesthetic fields for it to be a bestseller.

As a language, English, like any other 'tongue,' maintains its own rhythms and keeps itself organized, 'like a thermostat,' continually regulating itself (Olarewaju & Babalola, 2016). Reporters are not the creators of the English language; newspapers can be thought of as "linguistic mirrors" because they reflect and extend current usage; reporters are perceptive individuals who easily grasp new forms and transmit them to the public. In truth, they rarely develop language forms; rather, they use them in newscasting, reporting, and writing to bring them to light.

In newspaper usage, the language of reportage and headlines should be taken seriously because some reporters are oblivious of the rules governing formal use of language. Furthermore, some of these newspapers have cast caution to the wind by over-sensationalizing their stories with "complimentary" wild headlines. It is common to come across a headline that has nothing to do with the main story. The choice of words and writing style are in violation of the rules of the language of publication. Newspapers, by definition, use language to foster understanding. Ojo, Odegbenle, and Akinreti (2013) assert that certain Nigerian media clumsily employ honorary or professionally earned titles. Nigerians are attached to their titles, and Nigerian media have embraced similar cultural features. The only exception, according to the study, was the *Guardian* newspaper, which was first resistant to the pressure but subsequently surrendered to it. Furthermore, vulgarity and obscenity are frequently seen in the content of Nigerian print media titles, particularly in weekend editions. The *Sunday Sun* newspaper and the P.M. News both use sensationalism in their stories, with a focus on human interest. Another issue identified in studies on the use of language in Nigerian newspapers is paragraph length and word choice. Because most Nigerian newspapers focus on politics, economic issues, and sports topics, some have between 35 and 40 words each paragraph. All of these topics get a lot of attention, and their stories can take up to five pages. Malapropism, tautology, and the use of archaic terminology abound in Nigerian journalism (Taiwo, 2007; Pam, 2012; Odegbenle, 2013).

There are also ethical issues, with the usage of media terminology not being effectively controlled and strictly regulated by Nigeria's regulatory and professional agencies. It is unfortunate that the Nigerian Union of Journalists' (NUJ) courageous efforts to impose a minimum quality of diploma in journalism at entrance level have been questioned by the practitioners themselves (Odegbenle, 2013). Nigerian newspapers occasionally employ vernacular and slang to communicate with their readers. When these vernacular and slangs are utilized in the media, the media regulating bodies always disapprove. Informal Vocabulary is what they are called.

Recommendations

The following recommendations are based on suggestions given by scholars (Taiwo, 2007; Alo & Ogungbe, 2012; Awojobi & Adeokun, 2012; Pam, 2012; Ojo, Odegbenle & Akinreti, 2013; Udoh & Obot, 2013; Animasahun, 2015; Olarewaju & Babalola, 2016; Olumuji & Obateru, 2022).

1. Nigerian media professionals should take a cue from the British media system and set up language labs and facilities at both tertiary and media institutions.

2. In addition, media schools' academic curricula should focus on the correct usage of media terminology and vocabularies by practitioners.
3. Sentence is one of the most crucial aspects of writing, particularly journalistic writing. Sentences ought to be coherent; they should stick together and have an unbreakable bond. The pieces that make up each sentence must stick or work together for the piece of writing to be coherent or reasonable. A journalistic sentence should have unity. The units that make up the sentence are, by definition, related to one another and should connect well with other paragraphs on the same theme.
4. Furthermore, newspapers should carefully select linguistic items in order to achieve their intentions and goals. Reporters and editors, for their part, should use simple and precise language to improve the clarity of their work. Various sentence types can also be used to keep the reader's attention.
5. Additionally, awareness programs about gender equality in the English language should be run to inform all Nigerians. Grammar books should also include gender-fair language, and teachers should be encouraged to learn and teach gender-fair language. If Nigerians do not like the word "they," at least they may distinguish between sexes and genders by using traditional pronouns like "his," "her," and so on instead of using generic pronouns. De-gendering gendered English is one strategy that practitioners in the teaching, learning, and assessment of the English language would need to use in response to contemporary demands and international pressures. Gender issues are, of course, a global issue that will eventually have a significant impact. Sexist forms in news editing and reporting should be avoided to the greatest extent possible, as they are becoming obsolete.
6. Newspaper headlines should be used to start, sustain, and shape debate about readers' perspectives on national issues. Overt biases should not be apparent in news reporting, yet every persuasive text or discourse, especially a news item, must necessarily be presented from an angle or ideological stance.
7. Also, labels like "HIV patients" and "HIV-infected individual" are derogatory and stigmatizing. Both "people with HIV/AIDS" and "people living with HIV/AIDS" are acceptable substitutes. The most important thing to keep in mind is that before disease can be included as a criterion, people must first be portrayed as persons.
8. Finally, consideration should be made to include specialized reporting in newspapers in the curricula of the country's journalism schools. Regulatory and professional entities should be vigilant in their monitoring in order to prevent the misuse of media jargon. The government should invest in media institutions by hiring media academics and ensuring that basic amenities and essential literature are available.

Conclusion

This study aimed at reviewing and discussing existing literature on the language of reporters. It has been evidenced that language cannot be separated from reporting for media practitioners, particularly Nigerian newspaper reporters. Language and news coverage are inextricably linked. In news reporting, language is more than just a means of communication; it has power; it is action-oriented; and it has the ability to affect or control readers' thoughts and behaviors. A piece of writing, on the other hand, is aesthetic and journalistic if it is clear, consistent, complete, concrete, correct, and coherent. Nigerian journalists must understand the usage of English, the country's official language of communication, in order to successfully connect with the people. This would reduce misinterpretation of information and lead to the country's long-term development.

References

Alo, M., & Ogungbe, E. O. (2012). Lexicalisation in news stories of some nigerian national newspapers. *LUMINA*, *23*(2), 1-19.

Animasahun, O. (2015). Sexist language in Nigerian newspapers: a case study of *the Punch* and *the*

Guardian Newspapers. *IOSR Journal of Humanities and Social Science, 20(1), 65-75.*

Awojobi, E.A., & Adeokun, O.A. (2012). Content analysis of agricultural issues reported in two Nigerian daily newspapers. *Library Philosophy and Practice (e-journal),* Paper 800, 1-7. Retrieved 20th April, 2016 from http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/libphilprac.

Baran, S. 2002. *Introduction to mass communication, media literacy and culture.* New York: McGraw Hill Higher Education.

Edegoh, L.O.N., Ezeh, N.C. & Samson, A.C. (2015). Evaluation of newspaper reading habit of youths in Anambra State, Nigeria. *Journal of New Media and Communication,* 37, 63-71.

Goodluck, L., William, A. & Adebisi, T. (2016). Newspaper readership pattern in Ekiti State, Nigeria. *IOSR Journal of Humanities and Social Science,* 21(6), 71-77.

Odegbenle, L.B. (2013). Language of communication in the Nigerian media. *Singaporean Journal of Business Economics, and Management Studies*, *1*(11), 162-168.

Odorume, A. (2012). Historiography of the print media: a global-cum-Nigerian perspective. *Mgbakoigba: Journal of African Studies,* 1(1), 1-9.

Olarewaju, E.O., & Babalola, E.T. (2016). Gendered English usage in the Nigerian newspapers. *British Journal of English Linguistic*, *4*(1), 1-18.

Ojo, T.O., Odegbenle, B.F., & Akinreti, O.Q. (2013). Comparative study of media language of Britain and Nigeria Newspapers. *Singaporean Journal of Business Economics, and Management Studies, 2*(2), 67-75.

Olumuji, E.O. (2021). Preference for print and electronic newspapers among resident of Lagos State, Nigeria. *SAU Journal of Management and Social Sciences*, 6(3), 214-222.

Olumuji, E.O. & Obateru, T. (2022). Effect of electronic newspaper on print newspaper patronage in Lagos State, Nigeria. *NTAtvc Journal of Communication, 6(1), 118-125.*

Olumuji, E.O, & Ogba, E. (2018). Media credibility and usage: Print newspaper versus online citizen media. *International Journal of Current Research in Humanities*, 22(1), 227- 241.

Pam, K.J. (2012). A linguo-stylistic analysis of newspaper reportage on the 2010 and 2011 crises in Jos: a case study of *The Nation* and *This Day. International Journal of Language, Literature and Gender Studies, 1*(1), 52-64. *www.afrrevjo.net/afrrevlaligens*

Taiwo, R. (2007). Language, ideology and power relations in Nigerian newspaper headlines. *Nebula Academic Journal*, *4*(1), 218-245.

Udoh, G., & Obot, C. (2013). Textual aesthetics: a look at Nigerian print media news and features. *Global Journal of Human Social Science Arts, Humanities and Psychology, 13*(3), 10-20.